

25X1A Dear [REDACTED]

As they sometimes do, events overtake time and plans; therefore, the ensuing situation calls for measures appropriate to the development. It is in this vein that I am writing to you personally.

My wife and I arrived here in Saigon in September 1971 and I am glad to say, on the whole, the tour has been delightful. So much so that the authorities here asked me to extend my tour nine months until May 1974. I agreed to this and was busily altering my personal plans to make them jibe. Then came the first and second lists from Washington telling people that they were going to "voluntarily" retire or leave the Company by 30 June 1973. I was not on the first list; but my name did appear on the second list saying that I had been found "in excess of the requirements of the Operations Service" and that I would "voluntarily" retire during December 1973. However, Headquarters did say that I could extend two months beyond my normal PCS rotation date of September and remain until November 1973. My staying here until November will complete 25 years of Federal Service and the five years overseas requirement. For this consideration on the part of Headquarters I am somewhat but not altogether grateful.

I have no desire nor intention of "voluntarily" retiring during December 1973. Instead of being "in excess to the requirements of the service", I know that my unique qualifications in the field of alcoholism coupled with my Company experience as a staff employee are greatly needed by the entire company. I find that I have been lumped in with many other people who fulfill the technical requirements of time in service and overseas and that the departure of this group will cause an immediate drop in the company head count. But then as [REDACTED] told me at Headquarters at the time of my addressing your Psychiatric Staff on the subject of Alcoholism - "this company is not allowed to have cases of this disease, alcoholism". Thus, who knows of my value in this field but yourself and the members of your medical service? Members of my Service look at the overt personnel record citing two early re-calls and add another name to the list. I cannot and will not buy this peremptory banishment based on half-knowledge. I feel that I have endured an experience which has crippled so many individuals and has been highly detrimental to the mission of the Company - and last but not least, the stultification of my own career. I am convinced that I have emerged a better person and officer, equipped with skills in the field of alcoholism needed even more now by the Company. But as I have said previously, I know it and I believe that you and your staff know it; but the Personnel segment charged with simply achieving a lower head count doesn't know it. Thus, in fairness to the needs of the Company and to me, I need a knowledgeable and forceful official at Headquarters to have this imminent "retirement" reversed and instead have me assigned to Medical Services to assist in this field of alcoholism. May I ask you, [REDACTED] personally to effect this change and give me the opportunity to prove the value of

25X1A

25X1A

Approved For Release 2001/03/30 : CIA-RDP78-05343A000100060016-4

my combination of skills and experience? I assure you that I have no doubts as to my abilities or value in this field; but that I do have serious reservations of the efficacy of a normal appeal through Personnel channels from a distant point such as Saigon.

I am still in the employ of the Company, cleared to the highest degree, with a proven record of accomplishment in operations, staff, administration, training, and personnel work even during my period as an "active" alcoholic. I add to this my most recent eight years as a "non-active" alcoholic working within Alcoholics Anonymous with literally hundreds of alcoholics in all stages of the disease in all walks of life. I frankly would not want to see the Company go outside and hire a non-alcoholic expert with purely academic background. The Company has sufficient professional medical knowledge; but I am going to be bold enough to say that it needs a "Company insider" with knowledge of its modus operandi and requirements. As a graduate of the "School of Hard Knocks" in the alcoholism field, I have the practical experience - and I am available at the end of my tour here in Saigon in November 1973.

I offer, as illustrations, some of the groups or individuals within them, that I am qualified to work with:

1. Supervisory personnel - from the highest to the lowest in an educative process.
2. The problem drinker himself at the early - mid - and late stages.
3. Alcoholism as a family disease - Al-Anon and Ala-Teen.
4. The medical staff personnel and that of the Office of Personnel.
5. The Operations people and their misuse of alcoholic agents.

25X1A

I discussed the above plan with [REDACTED] our recently departed Medic Admin Officer. Joe said that he would be in Washington in July and offered to alert you, [REDACTED] that I would be writing to you. I was enheartened by Joe's enthusiasm for the practicality and common sense approach I outlined. I hope that Joe has been able to expand on the subject and our mutual, but individual observations, of the scene here in Saigon.

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A

During the course of my annual Physical Examination, I broached the subject to [REDACTED] who agreed on the Company need in this field. However, citing the late [REDACTED] he opined that there may be a powerful person with the active affliction himself in the hierarchy of the Company who would quash any move such as mine. This I accept as a fact of life, but it will not deter me. Rather I look to the Department of State's Medical Department employing a "non-active" alcoholic, a Mr. Dwyer, who works not only in D.C., but travels abroad in his work in the field of alcoholism. I look to today's headline in the Stars and Stripes - "G.I.'s Biggest Problem: IT'S DRUNK". The article goes on to cite the release of two studies at a Pentagon news conference by Dr. Richard S. Wilbur, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health and Environment. Some of the statistics cited must have rattled the Department authorities; but at least the studies were made and released. In the same issue, another half-page article on Alcoholism quoted Dr. Morris Chafetz, Director of the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse - "We must come to a way of dealing with it," he said. "The issue is not for any governmental agency to tell people they should or should not drink, but to say, 'if you're going to use

Approved For Release 2001/03/30 : CIA-RDP78-05343A000100060016-4

Approved For Release 2001/03/30 : CIA-RDP78-05343A000100060016-4

It is refreshing to see it coming out in the light of day. A beginning but just a beginning!

I don't advocate public news conferences for Company releases in this field; but I do call for Company Administrative Authorities' recognition "in house" that it has existed in the past, exists now, and will exist in its future - and to deal with it professionally as called for by good management practices and humanitarianism. At the very least, there should not be a continuing covert pressure to suppress its existence.

25X1A If [REDACTED] to name a few, find it effective, why can't we? To hide behind security considerations is to beg the question.

I thank you for your consideration of my request. Your active assistance in the successful completion of my being detailed to Medical Services for work in the field of Alcoholism would mean a great deal to me. In any event, I must and will persist through any and all avenues I can find to accomplish this objective. I would appreciate hearing from you within the next thirty to sixty days so that I might better formulate my plans prior to my departure from Saigon and before reporting into Headquarters to deal with my current status of being a "voluntary" retiree.


25X1A Since I am not knowledgeable of your vacation schedule, I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of this letter and a note to both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for their information and any assistance they might render.

25X1A

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] 25X1A

P.S. For my part, I envisage a minimum of one year for initiation and implementation of this plan. Certainly by the end of two years, I would look forward to retiring from government service in order to pursue my continued interest in the academic field.

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL SECRET		
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Acting Director of Medical Services 1 D 4061 Hqs	2 JAN 1974	cmh
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks: Charlie: Attached for your information is some correspondence generated by [REDACTED]. I'm not familiar with the background on this problem, and would very much appreciate a call. [REDACTED] is arranging to have "comments" prepared in OP, and it strikes me that OMS might wish to follow the same approach. In any case, DD/M&S would like to have the opportunity to review the input to the IG package. <div style="text-align: right;">  LJD </div> Att: DD/M&S 73-4913			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Executive Officer to the DD/M&S 7D 26 Hqs x6535			2 Jan 74
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET

25X1A

25X1A

25X1A